

# African Research Institute

To: History Social Science Framework committee  
[hssframework@cde.ca.gov](mailto:hssframework@cde.ca.gov)

RE: Recommendation for amendments:

I, Carl Pinkston, a community activist and Director of African Research Institute, strongly urge you to revise the current draft of the History/Social Science Framework to include a more adequate recording of the history of California and the nation by including the significant contributions of Mexicans and Mexican Americans to this history.

California has the largest student population of any state, with more than 6,236,000 students in school in 2013. Students who are Mexican American of Latino heritage make up over 53% of the total school population. Latino student political non participation and disconnectedness is significantly caused by Latino absence from the K-12 textbooks and curriculum. Children and young adults need to see themselves in the curriculum. Students, have low levels of attachment to California and U.S. civics engagement in significant part because the government institution they encounter the most- the schools- ignore the students' own history, cultures and experiences. Furthermore, Latinos comprise nearly 39% of the state population, and descendants of Mexican Americans and Latinos now constitute over 52% of the students in our schools. These students deserve to learn their own history.

I am encouraging the Framework Committee to include the extension of Mexican American/Latino history in the revised framework American/Chicano history. Currently, the American/Chicano history is substantially absent from public school textbooks and curriculum in California- and it has been since 1986. In other words, you can't have a fair and balanced history without including more information on this topic. Therefore, I recommend extension of the description of the Chicano movement to more adequately address this issue. I propose that you include the following revised framework:

On Line 2014, Page 351 Amend the description to include:

**From 1994 on, political campaigns in California and other states pass a series of anti-immigrant propositions and laws (Prop.187. Prop.227). All but one provision of Prop.187 was blocked by the federal courts citing U.S. constitutional protections. In 1996 the Immigration Reform Act passed by U.S. Congress provides for increased border enforcement and benefit cuts.**

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**From 2003 political conflict and controversy become national issues along with low quality public schools and lack of employment opportunities. In response the Latino community becomes increasingly politically active, increasing their voter registration and participation, changing the political make up of first the California legislature, then the federal congress. Latinos become the largest ethnic group in California 2010, a plurality of all residents, and Latino children become more than 51% of the public school students.**

If you have additional questions please contact me at (916) 453-1014 or write 4104 44<sup>th</sup> Street, Sacramento, CA 95820

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Carl Pinkston', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Carl Pinkston

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